

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as set forth in the following listing of claims, which will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1-66. (Canceled)

67. (Currently Amended) A method of treating an ACE2 decreased state comprising administering to a mammal having an ~~ACE2 decreased state~~ hypertension, congestive heart failure, chronic heart failure, acute heart failure, myocardial infarction, arteriosclerosis, renal failure, and/or lung disease, a therapeutically effective amount of an ACE2 ~~activator~~polypeptide.

68. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 67, wherein the mammal is a human.

69. (Canceled)

70-72. (Canceled)

73. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 67, further comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of an ACE2 ~~activator~~polypeptide, wherein the ACE2 ~~activator~~polypeptide is co-administered with an ACE inhibitor.

74-99. (Canceled)

100. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[69]]~~67, wherein the mammal has a lung disease.

101. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 100, wherein the lung disease is adult respiratory distress syndrome.

102. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 100, wherein the lung disease is lung cancer.

103. (Canceled)

104. (New) The method of claim 100, wherein the lung disease is chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, pneumonia, asthma, chronic bronchitis, pulmonary emphysema, cystic fibrosis, interstitial lung disease, primary pulmonary hypertension, pulmonary embolism, pulmonary sarcoidosis, tuberculosis, or lung edema.

105. (New) The method of claim 67, wherein the ACE2 polypeptide is a mouse ACE2 polypeptide.

106. (New) The method of claim 67, wherein the ACE2 polypeptide is a rat ACE2 polypeptide.

107. (New) The method of claim 67, wherein the ACE2 polypeptide is a human ACE2 polypeptide.